

# Government: Ethics, Protests & FOIA Considerations



**THERESA YOUNG**  
**ACQUISITION & FISCAL LAW**  
**COUNSEL**  
**WESTERN AREA COUNSEL OFFICE**  
**(WACO)**

# WACO - Who We Serve



- Field Office of the Office of the Counsel to the Commandant of the Marine Corps within the Department of the Navy General Counsel Office.
- Provide legal support to all Marine Corps Bases west of the Mississippi. Legal specialties include Contracts, Fiscal, FOIA, Labor, Environmental, MCCS (formerly MWR), Land Use and Water Rights Law sections.

# Gifts as a marketing tool



- The basic rule: An employee shall not solicit or accept, directly or indirectly, a gift from a prohibited source or given because of the employee's official position.
- Exceptions:
  - Gifts of \$20 or less: Unsolicited gifts (NOT cash) with a market value of \$20 or less per source and per occasion are permissible so long as the total value of all gifts received from a single source during a CY does not exceed \$50.

# Handouts



- Ethics – Gifts
- Agency Protests
  - How to file
  - When to file
  - Basis for protest
  - Small Business size protests
- Freedom of Information Act Procedures (FOIA)

# Question & Answer Topics?



- Possible Q&A topics to raise:
  - Solicitation questions/protests
    - Small Business Size Protests
    - Agency Protests
  - Contract Disputes
  - FOIA – Info protected from release
  - Understanding solicitation evaluations
  - Vender Terms & Conditions
  
- Theresa Young – Western Area Counsel Office